

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given on a telephone interview with Paul Farrell on August 1, 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims

a) **Claim 1** has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A mobile communication device comprising:
a main body including a display and guide holes formed at both sides of the display;
a slide cover sliding between a dosed position and an opened position over a front surface of the display in a longitudinal direction of the main body;
a pop-up module connected to the slide cover and inserted into the guide holes for sliding the slide cover over the front surface of the display;
a side grip provided at a side surface of the main body so as to fix the closed and opened positions, the side grip including: a locking plate for locking to and unlocking from a locking groove of the pop-up module; a one-touch button installed on an external surface of the side grip, wherein pressing of the one-touch button allows rotation of the locking plate, thus separating the locking plate from the locking groove; and
a locker unit installed at a designated position of the external surface of the side grip to maintain a locked state of the locking plate; and a coiled compression spring providing a sliding elastic force to slide the slide cover from the closed position to the opened position.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-7, and 9-15 are allowed, and renumbered 1-14.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Consider claim 1, the best prior art found during the examination of the present application, Enokido (U.S. Patent No. 5,461,672) et al. discloses a mobile communication device comprising: a main body (main body 1) including a display (LCD 15) and guide holes (slide guide grooves 41 and 42) formed at both sides of, the display; a slide cover sliding between a closed position and an opened position (i.e. speaker housing 4) over a front surface in a longitudinal direction of the main body; and inserted into the open front face of the guide holes (slide guide grooves 41 and 42) for sliding the slide cover over the front surface; and a side grip (click mechanism 43) provided at a side surface of the main body so as to fix the closed and open position.

However, Enokido does not disclose a slide cover is slidable over a front surface of the display, a pop-up module connected to the slide cover, a coiled compression spring providing a sliding elastic force to slide the slide cover from the closed position to the opened position, the side grip including: a locking plate for locking to and unlocking from a locking groove of the pop-up module; a one-touch button installed on an external surface of the side grip, wherein pressing of the one-touch button allows rotation of the locking plate, thus separating the locking plate from the locking groove; and a locker unit installed at a designated position of the external surface of the side grip to maintain a locked state of the locking plate.

Nagai (US Pat. No. 5,369,788) discloses a slide cover (slider 40) is slidable over a front surface of the display. However, Nagai does not disclose a pop-up module connected to the slide cover, a coiled compression spring providing a sliding elastic force to slide the slide cover from the closed position to the opened position, the side grip including: a locking plate for locking to and unlocking from a locking groove of the pop-up module; a one-touch button installed on an external surface of the side grip, wherein pressing of the one-touch button allows rotation of the locking plate, thus separating the locking plate from the locking groove; and a locker unit installed at a designated position of the external surface of the side grip to maintain a locked state of the locking plate.

Hansen (US Patent No. 6,370,362 B1) et al. discloses a pop-up module (metal slide frame 6) connected to the slide cover. However, Hansen does not disclose a coiled compression spring providing a sliding elastic force to slide the slide cover from the closed position to the opened position, the side grip including: a locking plate for locking to and unlocking from a locking groove of the pop-up module; a one-touch button installed on an external surface of the side grip, wherein pressing of the one-touch button allows rotation of the locking plate, thus separating the locking plate from the locking groove; and a locker unit installed at a designated position of the external surface of the side grip to maintain a locked state of the locking plate.

Gventer (US Pat. 6,785,565 B2) discloses a coiled compression spring providing a sliding elastic force to slide the slide cover from the closed position to the opened position.

However, the combination of Enokido, Nagai, Hansen, and Gventer does not disclose the side grip including: a locking plate for locking to and unlocking from a locking groove of the pop-up module; a one-touch button installed on an external surface of the side grip, wherein pressing of the one-touch button allows rotation of the locking plate, thus separating the locking plate from the locking groove; and a locker unit installed at a designated position of the external surface of the side grip to maintain a locked state of the locking plate.

Therefore, this limitation, in conjunction with the other limitations recited in claims are novel and unobvious in view of Enokido, Nagai, Hansen, Gventer and the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EMEM STEPHEN whose telephone number is 571 272 8129. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 Mon-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571 272 7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2617

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/EMEM STEPHEN/
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ES
08/1/2008

/Charles N. Appiah/
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